GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:604
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2007
CONTAMINATED POLIO VACCINES
Jogi Shri Ajit

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the presence of insects in vaccines meant for Polio eradication programme has been confirmed;

(b) the States where such type of vaccines have been distributed; and

(c) the steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS)

(a) Yes Sir. In certain isolated case eg. Batch No.K042 manufactured by M/s Bharat Immunologicals & Biologicals Corporation Limited (BIBCOL), Bulandshahar (U.P.) during February 2005.

(b) The vaccine was distributed to Punjab during March 2005. The State reported about insect like thing in the vaccine vial on April 2006.

(c) The consignee was asked immediately to stop the use of Oral Polio Vaccine of Batch no. K-042.

(i) The samples was sent to Central Drugs Laboratory(CDL), Kasauli and was reported as substandard quality since an insect was observed on physical examination microscopically and visually.

(ii) At the time of grant and renewal of manufacturing license, team comprising of State and Central Drugs Control officer along with an expert from CDL, Kasauli carry out an in-depth inspection and based on their observations and recommendations, State Licensing Authority grants/renews the license after obtaining the necessary approval from Central Licensing Approving Authority (CLAA).